

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 14, 2024  
MINUTES**

The Rural Hall Town Council held their regular council meeting on October 14, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Terry M. Bennett - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn; Councilman Mark Lane; Councilman Michael Woodcock; Councilwoman Anita Ring; Town Attorney Hugh Campbell; Town Manager Homer Dearmin; Town Clerk Lynette Hendrick; Finance Administrator Donna Watson; PIO Alston Brown; and Public Works Director Jason Hill.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick

A moment of silence was held.

**Mayor Terry Bennett read the announcements listed on the agenda:**

- 2024 Flat and Fast Rural Hall 5K/10K Race October 26
- Trunk or Treat Covington Park October 26, 6-9 pm
- Hall-o-ween (Halloween in Rural Hall on Broad Street) October 31
- Veterans Day November 11 offices closed
- Thanksgiving Holidays Observance November 28, 29 offices closed
- Christmas Tree Lighting December 5, 6:00 PM
- Christmas Parade December 8, 2:30 PM
- Christmas Holiday Observance December 25-27 offices closed
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**Introduction of New Employee**

Christopher Piper, Finance Intern

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion seconded by councilman Mark Lane to approve the agenda as written, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Terry Bennett introduced Morgan Tedder, the 89th President of the NC Jaycees, Heather Resino and Aaron Gauldin. Morgan explained who the Jaycees were and what they do. She would like to get a Rural Hall Chapter started. The age requirement for membership is from 18 to 40. Minimum membership to establish a charter is 10, and 20 to keep the charter.

**Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Terry Bennett addressed numerous concerns with false information and innuendos posted on the Independent Hall Monitor Facebook page.

**Mayor Terry Bennett called a fifteen-minute recess at 7:45pm and called the meeting back to order at 8:00pm**

**Public Comment Period**

No one signed up to speak but as always, Mayor Terry Bennett asked if anyone would like to speak.

Susan Christian - Glade St. requested to speak and stated she would be providing Christmas wreaths for the Town buildings this year.

**September Yard of the Month**

Mayor Terry Bennett recognized Wayne and Regina Tuttle 7310 Church Street

**Proclamation Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans**

Mayor Terry Bennett read the proclamation and stated Town Hall will be lit up with green lights from November 4-11, 2024 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice our men and women in uniform made.

**Consent Agenda**

Councilman Mark Lane made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn to adopting the consent agenda approving the August 12, 2024 Revised Regular Council Meeting minutes and September 9, 2024 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Anita Ring to change the November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to November 12<sup>th</sup> because of Veterans Day being November 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

PIO Alston Brown will be working with Councilman Mark Lane and Ronald McDonald House to organize the sale of luminaries for Broad Street. Chon Gonzalez stated she would be willing to get some groups together to volunteer their time to put the kits together.

Corporal Michael Collins, Rural Hall Community Policing Supervisor with FCSO gave an update regarding Woodbriar Apartment Complex. He stated the call volume has declined in the most recent months. The owner has had a personal issue that has prevented any more recent meetings.

**Department Reports**

Town Manager Homer Dearmin stated the department reports are included in the agenda for Council to review.

He wanted to thank Public Works Director Jason Hill and his crew for their hard work setting up and tearing down events.

**Council Members Comments**

Mayor Terry Bennett wanted to thank the Jaycees for their donations to the hurricane victims. Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn thanked the Mayor, Town Manager and staff for their hard work and the citizens that attended the meeting. Councilwoman Anita Ring announced Santa will be at the Rural Hall Train Depo December 7 from 5:30-7:30pm.

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion, seconded by Councilman Michael Woodcock to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 PM.

Lynette E. Hendrick  
Town Clerk